

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

Published Weekly at Raleigh, N. C.

OFFICE: 106 WEST MARTIN STREET.

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Trial subscription, 3 months......30

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A WORD IN SEASON.

"When the Frost is on the Punkin."

When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock,
And you hear the kyouck and gobble of the struttin' turkey-cock,
And the clackin' of the guineys, and the cluckin' of the hens,
And the rooster's hallylooyer as he tiptoes on the fence;
Oh, it's then's the time a feller is a-feelin' at his best,
With the risin' sun to greet him from a night of peaceful rest,
As he leaves the house, bare-headed, and goes out to feed the stock,
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock.

They's something kindo' harty-like about the atmosphere
When the heat of summer's over and the coolin' fall is here—
Of course we miss the flowers, and the blossoms on the trees,
And the mumble of the hummin' birds and buzzin' of the bees;
But the air is appetizin', and the landscape through the haze
Of a crisp and sunny morning of the airy autumn days
Is a pictur' that no painter has the colorin' to mock—
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock.

The husky, rusty russel of the tussels of the corn,
And the ruspin' of the tangled leaves, as golden as the morn;
The stubble in the furries—kindo' lonesome-like, but still
A-preachin' sermons to us of the barns they grewed to fill;
The strawstack in the medder, and the reaper in the shed;
The hosses in their stalls below—the clover overhead!—
Oh, it sets my heart a-clickin' like the tickin' of a clock,
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock!

Then your apples all is gathered, and the ones a feller keeps
Is poured around the cellar floor in red and yellor heaps;
And your cider-makin's over, and your wimmern-folks is through
With their mince and apple butter, and their souse and sausage, too;
I don't know how to tell it—but ef sich a thing could be
As the angels wantin' boardin', and they'd call around on me—
I'd want to 'commendate 'em—all the whole-indurin' flock,
When the frost is on the punkin and the fodder's in the shock!
—James Whitcomb Riley.

This Week's Election.

Elections will be held Tuesday 3rd, in eleven States, viz., Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maryland, Ohio, Iowa, Kentucky, Mississippi, New York, Pennsylvania, Nebraska and Colorado. In Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Maryland, Ohio, Kentucky, Iowa and Mississippi full State tickets are to be voted for; in the other States judges or minor State officers. In New York the State election is for a judge of the Court of Appeals. In that State there obtains a most praiseworthy custom under which one party often endorses the candidates of the other for a judicial office, the candidate being a fair-minded man, capable and blameless, and this year the Republicans endorsed the Democratic candidate. In New York and Mississippi there are no contests, and of the other States the Democrats have little hope, except of Maryland and Kentucky, though they may win in Colorado, where there is a straight fight. In Nebraska there is fusion between the Democrats and Populists, and it should not make any difference to Democrats elsewhere how that election goes. The most interesting contest of all those that will be waged next Tuesday is that over the mayoralty of Greater New York, and last night it looked like a mighty close fight. The betting, which at first favored McClellan, Democrat, afterwards became even; then swung to the side of Low, Republican; then ran even again, then favored McClellan once more, and the last bets of which there was any account—those of Monday—gave odds on Low. It appears at this time to be anybody's fight.—Charlotte Observer.

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